Rep. Baird Helps Secure \$14.6 Million for Northwest-based Defense Projects-Federal Funding Will Protect Troops and Create Local Jobs- (September 27, 2006)

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Brian Baird helped secure \$14.625 million for Northwest-based defense projects - including Vancouver-based nLight - in the final Fiscal Year 2007 Defense Appropriations Act that passed the House late last night.

ϊ¿½This funding will provide critical protections to our servicemen and women and help create new jobs throughout our region, ϊ¿½ said Congressman Baird. ϊ¿½As an avid mountain climber and outdoorsman, I was already familiar with the popular applications of these amazing hi-tech products. When I learned about the life-saving applications they could have for our troops in combat, I began vigorously advocating for the increased federal funding that will get them to our servicemen and women in Iraq and Afghanistan. ϊ¿½

Congressman Baird helped secure funding for the following Northwest-based defense projects:

nLightï¿1/2s Lightweight Multi-Purpose Laser: \$5 million:

The \$5 million Congressman Baird helped secure for Vancouver-based laser manufacturer nLight will be used to develop eye-safe laser technology that has multiple military applications, including target designation, illumination, and imaging.

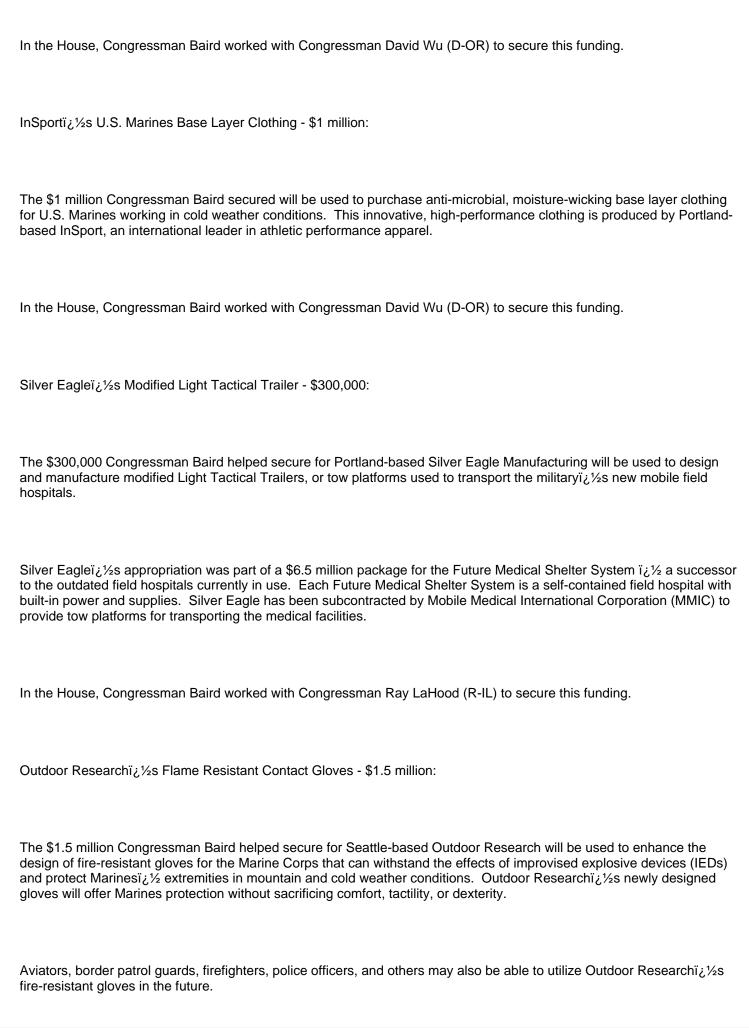
HemConï¿1/2s Chitosan Hemorrhage Control - \$3.55 million:

The \$3.55 million Congressman Baird helped secure for Portland-based HemCon, a manufacturer of advanced medical technology devices, will be used to study the efficacy of compressed chitosan-based hemostatic bandages on burns. HemCon�s chitosan bandages are already being used by the Army to treat severe external and internal bleeding sustained from combat injuries.

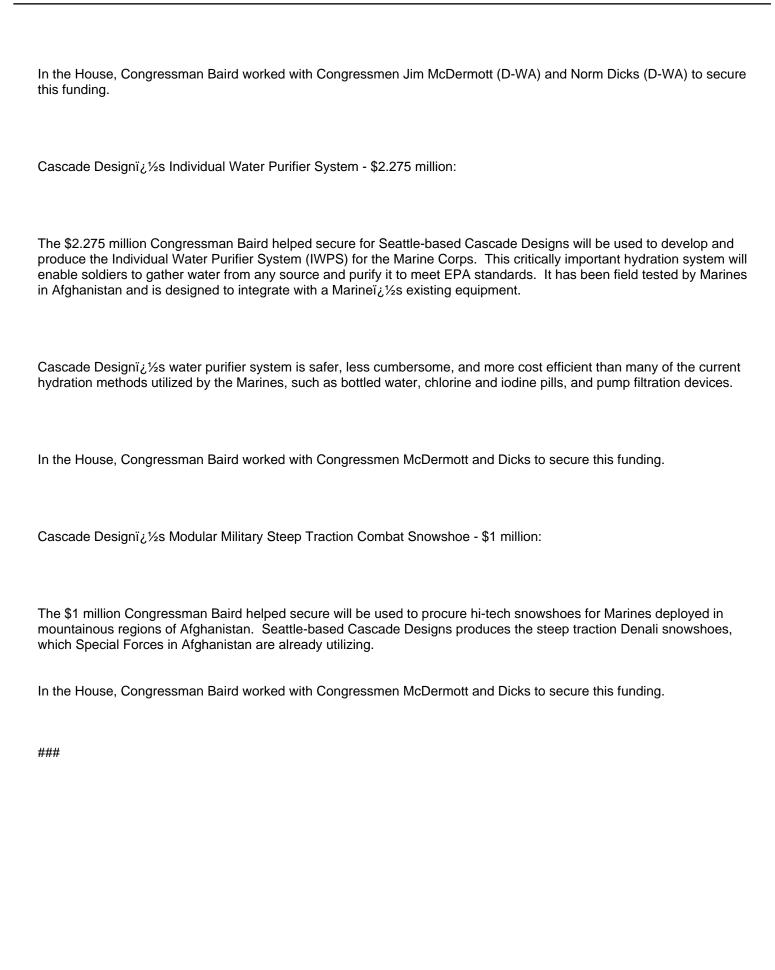
Chitosan is derived from chitin, a polysaccharide found in the exoskeletons of crustaceans. Chitosan-based bandages form a barrier to bacteria and show great promise in preventing bleeding, fluid loss, and infection resulting from burns.

The Army Surgeon General has requested that every soldier deployed to a combat zone carry a HemCon chitosan bandage in his or her first-aid kit.

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